

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for performing database operations, the method comprising the steps of:
reading a first plurality of elements of a first query from a first set of one or more tables;
assembling a query string from the first plurality of elements;
and
executing the first query string to retrieve results from one or more source data tables.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of reading a first plurality of elements includes the sub-steps of:
reading a name of a second table from a first table; and
reading a plurality of arguments for the query string from the second table.
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the sub-step of assembling a query string that includes a first query language command and the plurality of arguments.
4. The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of reading a first plurality of elements of a first query from the first set of one or more tables further includes the sub-step of reading one or more names corresponding to one or more source data tables from the first table.
5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the sub-step of reading a plurality of arguments for the first query language command from the second table includes the sub-step of reading a plurality of names of columns of the one or more source data tables from the second table.

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1 6. The method according to claim 5, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the
2 sub-step of concatenating together a first plurality of elements that include the name of the one or more
3 source data tables and the plurality of names of columns.

1 7. The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of reading a second query
2 language command from the first table.

1 8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of reading a plurality of names
2 of columns of a target data table from the second table.

1 9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the
2 sub-step of concatenating together a second plurality of elements that include the second query
3 language command and the plurality of names of columns of the target data table.

1 10. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
2 reading a second plurality of elements of a query from a second set of one or more tables;
3 assembling a data base table storage command string from the second plurality of elements
4 and
5 executing the data base table storage command string in order to modify a target data table.

1 11. A method according to claim 10, wherein said storage command string is Structured Query
2 Language UPDATE command string.

1 12. A method according to claim 10, wherein said storage command string is Structured Query
2 Language INSERT command string.

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1 14. A method according to claim 10, wherein said second plurality of elements contain data used
2 to specify the order in which data elements are to be stored.

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1 16. A machine-readable medium encoded with a program for performing database operations, said
2 program containing instructions for performing the steps of:
3 reading a first plurality of elements of a first query from a first set of one or more tables;
4 assembling a query string from the first plurality of elements;
5 and
6 executing the first query string to retrieve results from one or more source data tables.

1 17. The computer readable medium according to claim 16, wherein the step of reading a plurality
2 of elements includes the sub-steps of:
3 reading a name of a second table from the first table;
4 reading a plurality of arguments for the query language command from the second table;
5 and
6 executing the first query string to retrieve results from one or more source data tables.

1 18. The computer readable medium according to claim 17, wherein the step of assembling the
2 query string includes the sub-step of assembling a query string that includes a first query language
3 command and the plurality of arguments.

1 19. The computer readable medium according to claim 17, wherein the step of reading a first
2 plurality of elements of a first query from the first set of one or more tables further includes the sub-step
3 of reading one or more names corresponding to one or more source data tables from the first table.

1 20. The computer readable medium according to claim 19, wherein the step of reading a plurality
2 of arguments for the first query language command from the second table further includes the sub-step
3 of reading a plurality of names of columns of the one or more source data tables from the second table.

1 21. The computer readable medium according to claim 20, wherein the step of assembling the
2 query string includes the sub-step of concatenating together a first plurality of elements that include the
3 name of the one or more source data tables and the plurality of names of columns.

1 22. The computer readable medium according to claim 17, wherein the program further contains
2 instructions for performing the step of reading a second query language command from the first table.

1 23. The computer readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the step of reading a plurality
2 of arguments for the query language command from the second table includes the sub-step of reading
3 a plurality of names of columns of a target data table from the second table.

1 24. The computer readable medium according to claim 23, wherein the step of assembling the
2 query string includes the sub-step of concatenating together a second plurality of elements that include
the second query language command and the plurality of names of columns of the target data table.

1 25. The computer readable medium according to claim 16, wherein the program further contains
2 instructions for performing the steps of:
3 reading a second plurality of elements of a query from a second set of one or more tables;
4 assembling a data base table storage command string from the second plurality of elements;
5 and
6 executing the data base table storage command to modify a target data table.

1 26. The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage command string
2 is Structured Query Language UPDATE command string.

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1 30. The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein the program further contains
2 instructions for performing the step of executing said storage command string so as to cause all or a part
3 of said source data set to be stored.

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1 34. A data processing system according to claim 33, further comprising:
2 means for reading a second plurality of elements of a query from a second set of one or more
3 tables;
4 means for assembling a database table storage command string from the second plurality of
5 elements;
6 and
7 means for executing the database table storage command to modify a target data table.

Figure 1 consists of 12 histograms arranged vertically, each representing a different value of n from 1 to 12. The x-axis for all histograms is labeled 'z' and ranges from -10 to 10. The y-axis is labeled 'count' and ranges from 0 to 100. The histograms show that as n increases, the distribution of z becomes more concentrated around zero, with the peak count increasing significantly.

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